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ALBERT FRANCIS COUTANT

Albert Francis Coutant was born in Brooklyn, New York, July 7, 1892, and died in Manila, P. I., April 18, 1919. He is survived by his wife, Mary Wotherspoon Stewart, of the Department of Botany of Barnard College.

Dr. Coutant received his B.S. degree from Cornell University in 1913, and his Masters degree in 1914. In 1917 he received his degree of M.D. from the same institution. He was student assistant in Entomology at Cornell from 1911 to 1914, and in the summer of 1912 was assistant in Zoology at the University of Illinois. As an undergraduate his special work in Entomology was largely from the viewpoint of parasitology, and this soon broadened into an interest in the general field.

During the summer of 1916 he worked under the International Health Board of the Rockefeller Foundation on the eradication of the hookworm in Texas. After graduation from the medical college he became established in the Cancer Memorial Hospital in New York, but in September, 1917, accepted an appointment tendered jointly by the International Health Board and the Philippine Health Service to become Chief Surgeon on the Hospital Ship *Busuanga*, operating among the Moros in the southern end of the Philippine Archipelago. During the first six months of 1918 while the ship was undergoing repairs, Dr. Coutant was acting superintendent of St. Luke's Hospital, one of the largest in Manila.

Though devoted to his work, he wrote shortly before his death, "The desire to go back to teaching is still strong with me." The writer happens to know of two tempting university positions in parasitological work which were offered to Dr. Coutant, but he felt that he was under obligations to continue on the hospital ship until the completion of his three year term. This attitude of faithfulness and loyalty was typical of all of his relations in life.

Though his publications were few, he was a keen observer, and accumulated many data which he was planning to utilize in future work. At the time of his death he had several papers in course of preparation, but unfortunately they were not in shape to be completed by another.

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